

**In the Specification**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2 and ending on page 3 of the Specification with the following paragraph:

It has been found that the prior art binder strips of the general type shown in Figs. 1A, 1B and 1C have a tendency to curl along the transverse axis of the binder strip as shown in Fig. 3. The curling is around the surface 30A that carries the heat activated adhesive band. During manufacture of the binder strips, the adhesives 24, 26A and 26B are applied to the substrate 22 surface in molten form. Once the adhesives have solidified due to cooling, the binder strips tend to curl in the manner shown in Fig. 3. The line X represents the chord between two selected points 32A and 32B on the binder strip 30, with the line being orthogonal to the longitudinal axis to the strip, that is, being along the transverse axis. Distance H represents the maximum distance between the adhesive surface 30A and line X. If the curl is symmetrical, distance H is measured from the center of the strip 32C, but that would not necessarily be the case. The curling becomes more pronounced over a period of time, sometimes over a few days, and can present problems during the binding process as described below.